

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A₃ Similar devices are generally known, wherein the chair on the frame is fixed thereon in stationary manner.

On page 1, before the paragraph which begins at line 26, please insert the following section heading:

A₄ SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 4, before the paragraph which begins at line 16, please insert the following section heading:

A₅ BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 4, before the paragraph which begins at line 36, please insert the following section heading:

A₆ DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-18 and rewrite them as new claims 19-36 as follows:

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19. A device for transporting persons along a staircase, comprising:
- a frame displaceable along a guide;
 - a drive to be selectively set into operation for displacing the frame along the guide; and
 - a chair on the frame on which a person for transporting can be seated, wherein the chair comprises a seat part and a back rest, wherein at least the seat part on the side directed toward the back rest can be pivoted up and downward in a pivoting movement on a substantially horizontal pivot axis and forms a guide during standing up or sitting down.

20. The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the back rest is connected to the seat part and co-displaces in substantially upright position with the seat part.

21. The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the frame and the seat part are connected to a guide mechanism for guiding the movement of the seat part relative to the frame.

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22. The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein the back rest and the seat part are connected by means of the guide mechanism.

23. The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein the guide mechanism comprises a chair drive.

24. The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein the guide mechanism comprises a rod construction coupled by means of hinges.

25. The device as claimed in claim 24, wherein rods in the rod construction are flat and plate-like and fold adjacently of each other into the guide mechanism in a position of the seat part folded down onto the frame.

26. The device as claimed in claim 24, wherein the hinges in the rod construction form a parallelogram, of which two hinges lying at corner points of the parallelogram are fixed to the frame in stationary manner relative thereto, and the other two hinge points are coupled to the seat surface.

27. The device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the rods between the two sets of pivot points have a curved form.

28. The device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the back rest is coupled to the two remaining pivot points.

29. The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein the guide mechanism comprises a pull rod which is arranged for rotation on the frame at the rear of the seat part and for rotation on the seat part at the front.